

Message Text

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TO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EFIN, OECD

SUBJ: MEETING OF INVISIBLES COMMITTEE ALTERNATES, MARCH
15-16

REF: OECD PARIS 6009, OECD PARIS A-19

1. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE ALTERNATES TO FOLLOW UP ON THE DECISION REACHED AT THE JANUARY 17 SPECIAL MEETING TO IMPROVE THE PRE- NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS. WHILE THIS PROCEDURE SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO INSURE AS MUCH PRE- NOTIFICATION AS POSSIBLE, IT SHOULD NOT PREJUDICE THE RIGHT OF EXPERTS OR THE SECRETARIAT TO BRING UP CASES WHICH ARE NOT NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE.

2. IT MIGHT ALSO BE HELPFUL TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE PRACTICES IN GRAY AREA CONCERNING NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN FOREIGN COMPANIES AND HOST GOVERNMENTS RELATED TO TAKEOVER BIDS
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AND OTHER SITUATIONS IN WHICH PRESCRIBED PROCEDURES AND INVESTMENT GUIDELINES ARE VAGUE AND THUS ALLOW WIDE ADMINISTRATIVE DISCRETION. WITHOUT PRESSING THIS ISSUE, US EXPERT MIGHT ASK WHETHER IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR SECRETARIAT TO INTRODUCE SPECIAL QUESTIONS, PERHAPS IN FORM OF QUESTIONNAIRE, DESIGNED (A) TO PROBE TOPICS SUCH AS DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT BETWEEN DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN PARTICULAR INDUSTRY AND (B) TO ISOLATE CASES WHERE SCREENING PROCESS FAVORS EXPORT- ORIENTED INDUSTRY OR OTHER TYPES OF ENTERPRISES AIMED AT BOLSTERING FOREIGN SECTOR RATHER THAN JUST DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

3. CONCERNING THE EXAMINATION OF INSURANCE RESERVATIONS, WE AGREE WITH MISSION' S ASSESSMENT (OECD A-20) THAT FOURTH EXAMINATION NOT LIKELY TO MAKE MUCH PROGRESS TOWARD FURTHER LIBERALIZATION AND THEREFORE COMMITTEE BEST ADVISED TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON OTHER MATTERS FOR THE TIME BEING. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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